



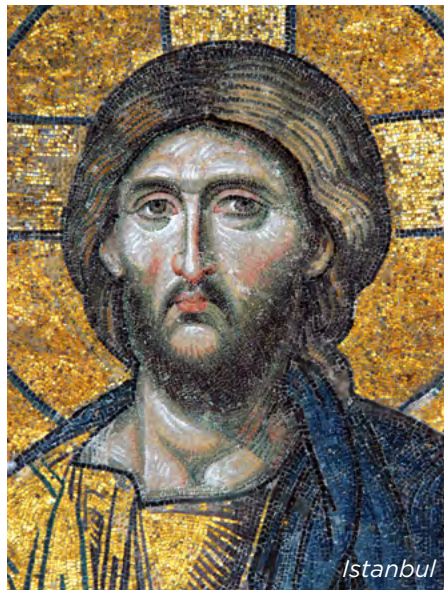
Lutheran School of
Theology at Chicago

WORLD OF THE BIBLE: BIBLICAL, CHRISTIAN, JEWISH & MUSLIM SITES IN GREECE & TURKEY

May 21 - June 6, 2024



Blue Mosque



Istanbul



Ephesus

Welcome! You are invited to join faculty and students from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in a pilgrimage to biblical cities of Greece and Turkey. Visit ancient sites of the Apostle Paul's missionary journeys and the churches of Revelation, and experience the Mediterranean world's amazing landscapes. Tour hosts Barbara Rossing and Esther Menn lead frequent "World of the Bible" trips to the Holy land. Both of us love the biblical world's rich history, as well as its religious and cultural diversity today. Both of us have traveled in Turkey with LSTC's Muslim students. Barbara Rossing teaches New Testament and has excavated at Ephesus, researching the biblical book of Revelation in the context of the Roman Empire. Esther Menn teaches Old Testament, with expertise in Jewish-Christian and Muslim Christian relations. Our group's mix of students, lay people, alumni and friends offers an experience of seminary life on the road, as together we explore two of the most fascinating countries of the world.



**The Rev. Dr.
Barbara R. Rossing**

**TOUR
HOSTS**



Dr. Esther Menn



Lutheran School of
Theology at Chicago

GREECE & TURKEY

May 21 - June 6, 2024

Tour Hosts:

**The Rev. Dr. Barbara R. Rossing &
Dr. Esther Menn**

FLIGHT SCHEDULE: Turkish Airlines

TK186	21MAY	ORDIST	1125	0550*
TK2027	05JUN	ASRIST	1100	1235
TK5	06JUN	ISTORD	1420	1745



**TURKISH
AIRLINES**



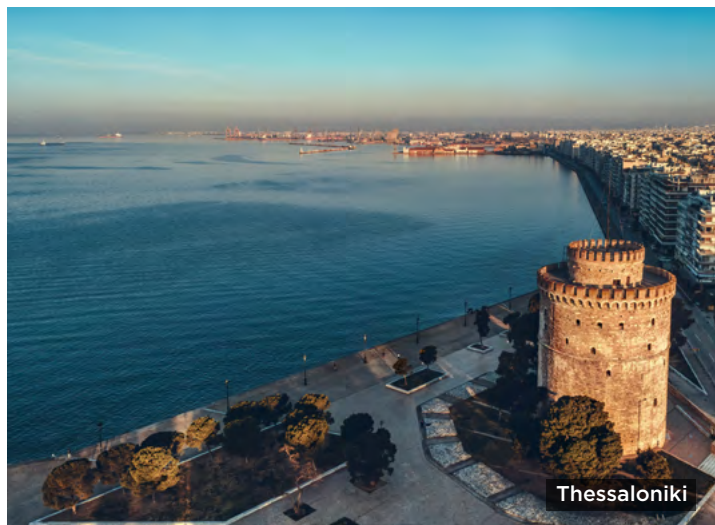
Sultan Ahmet Mosque & Hagia Sophia, Istanbul

Tour Itinerary:

May 21 Tue Depart at 11:25 am by Turkish Airline from Chicago to Istanbul
Embark on a meaningful pilgrimage journey of learning and discovery.

May 22 Wed Arrive Istanbul Airport at 05:50 am
Your guide will meet you with "Lutheran School of Theology - TUTKU" sign. Transfer to city center to visit the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate, Galata tower and walk at Istiklal Street. Check-in to the hotel at 1 pm. Rest of the day is free to relax (or optional Bosphorus Boat Tour). Dinner at the hotel. (D)

May 23 Thu Istanbul
Istanbul was the center of Byzantine Christianity, from the 4th century. Visit the Roman Hippodrome, Sultan Ahmet Blue Mosque, a 17th century sanctuary; Hagia Sophia, one of the world's architectural marvels, built as a church by Constantine, and reconstructed by Justinian in the 6th century; Topkapi Palace, the Imperial Palace of Ottoman Sultans between the 16th and 19th centuries. Spice Bazaar, Istanbul Archaeological Museum, Underground Basilica Cistern. Dinner and overnight Istanbul. (B,D)



Thessaloniki

May 24 Fri Istanbul - Greece Border - Philippi - Kavala
Early departure to travel to Greece, Visit the Roman city of Philippi, in Macedonia, including theatre, acropolis, basilicas, and an octagonal Byzantine church. We will visit the magnificent baptistry at the traditional river site where Paul baptized Lydia of Thyatira and the other women (Acts 16:13-15), the first Christians to be baptized on European soil. Overnight in Kavala (ancient Neapolis), (B,D)

May 25 Sat Thessaloniki - Meteora
Walk the Via Egnatia (Roman road) that Paul walked from Neapolis to Philippi (Acts 16:11-12), then on to Thessaloniki where we see two churches (St Demetrios and St Sophia), the Roman forum, the arch and mausoleum of Galerius, the Rotunda, and the archeological museum. At Virgina we stop at the tomb of Philip II of Macedon, father of Alexander the Great, to appreciate the roots of imperial theology and conquest. overnight Kalambaka/Meteora (B,D)

May 26 Sun Meteora
Byzantine monasteries sit high atop granite pinnacles, many of which are almost inaccessible. Visit two monasteries, including the Varlaam Monastery. Experience the theological worldview of Orthodox liturgies and icons. Worship (Eucharist) together. overnight Kalambaka (B,D)

May 27 Mon Meteora - Delphi
Drive south to the sacred Oracle of Delphi on the slopes of Mt. Parnassus, in a landscape of unparalleled majesty. Visit the Sanctuary of Apollo. Walk the sacred way; see manumission inscriptions proclaiming enslaved people's freedom. Visit the archeological museum, with the Gallo Inscription. (B,D)

May 28 Tue Delphi - Athens
Tour the Acropolis and Acropolis Museum, the Propylaea, the Parthenon, and the Erectheum. View Mars Hill where the apostle Paul spoke to the Athenian people (Acts 17:15-34) Visit Agora, Roman Forum, new archeological museum. overnight Athens (B,D)

May 29 Wed Corinth - Ferry to Patmos
Travel to the ancient city of Corinth where Paul met Jewish tent makers Priscilla and Aquila, (Acts 18: 1-3, Romans 16:3-4) and stayed 18 months, organizing a community of Christ-followers. Visit the acropolis (acro-Corinth), Agora (Market Place) with latrines and Temples, the Bema where Paul stood before pro-consul Gallio; archaeological museum, Erastus inscription. Visit the ancient port of Cencrea, home of Phoebe, a deacon and supporter of Paul (Romans 16:1). 6 pm ferry to Patmos (including cabin) No dinner tonight (B)

May 30 Thu 2 am arrive Patmos - Kusadasi
Go to hotel to sleep until 9 am. Visit the traditional cave of St John; monastery of St John; lunch at seaport; ferry to Kusadasi. Meet Turkish guide, go to hotel. Overnight Kusadasi. (B,D)

May 31 Fri Ephesus - Izmir
Full day touring Ephesus, one of the largest and best-preserved cities of the ancient world, site of a church of Revelation (Rev 2:1-7). Paul briefly visited here on his second journey and spent more than two years here on his third trip, working with Priscilla and Aquila. (Acts 18:19-26; 19:1-41; 20:16- 17; 21:29, 1 Cor. 15:32; 16:8), Paul wrote at least



Temple of Trajan, Acropolis, Pergamum

one letter here. We will spend the morning walking the city's marble streets, visit the magnificent Terrace Houses, Celsus Library, theatre (Acts 19), and the Double Church where the ecumenical Council of 431 CE/AD took place; St. John's Church, and the Selçuk Archaeological Museum (B,D)

June 1 Sat Pergamum & Sardis - Izmir

Visit Pergamum, one of the cities of Revelation (Rev 2:12). Tour the Acropolis with the steepest theatre of the ancient world, Temple of Trajan, library, and site of the monumental Altar to Zeus (now in Berlin). Visit the Asklepieion, an ancient healing center. Then drive to Sardis, another city of Revelation (Rev 3:1-4) to see the 3rd century Jewish Synagogue, Bath-Gymnasium complex, Temple of Artemis and a tiny 4th century church built into the Artemis Temple. Overnight Izmir (ancient Smyrna B,D)

June 2 Sun Aphrodisias - Pamukkale

Drive to Geyre to visit the archaeological museum and site of Aphrodisias, with its beautiful marble sculptures, imperial Sebasteion and stadium. See Jewish synagogue inscription listing "god-fearers" (a term for Gentile proselytes in Acts 16:14,18:7) Visit Laodicea, (Rev 3:14; Col 2:1, 4:13-16) and its newly excavated early churches. Visit Hierapolis, (Col. 4:13), an ancient healing site of spectacular travertine terraces and thermal waters, with a large theatre, a temple of Apollo, Martyrion of Philip, and the largest and best preserved necropolis (cemetery) in all of Turkey, Philip the apostle was martyred here. Philip and his four prophetic daughters (Acts 21:9) ministered here. overnight Pamukkale. Enjoy thermal spa. (B,D)

June 3 Mon Pamukkale - Psidian Antioch - Konya

Drive to Yalvac to visit Pisidian Antioch and its museum (with inscription fragments of Emperor Augustus' *Res Gestae*). Located at a crossroads of three regions, Antioch in Pisidia was a capital city for many cultures and an important biblical and early Christian site (Acts 13:14). Continue to Konya (Iconium), visited by Paul (Acts 13:51, 14:21). Iconium is also the home of Thecla, a virgin saint whose dramatic conversion story is narrated in the apocryphal Acts of Paul. Konya is now a Muslim center, home of Rumi (also known as Mevlana), the 13th century Sufi mystic and philosopher who founded the order of the dervishes. Visit Mevlana Museum and Mausoleum. Dinner and overnight in Konya. (B,D)

June 4 Tue Konya - Cappadocia

Drive to the 'Fairy Chimneys' of Cappadocia, a flourishing region of early Christianity (including Gregory of Nyssa, Basil and their sister Macrina). If time permits, visit to a Cervanserai or the Soganli Village to see the churches and cave dwellings; nature walk in the Ihlara Valley. Optional Dervish performance ; overnight cave hotel (B,D)

June 5 Wed Cappadocia

Optional hot air balloon. , Goreme Open Air museum and the famous painted rock churches, the Citadel of Uchisar or Ortahisar; enjoy free time before farewell dinner; overnight Goreme cave hotel (B,D)

June 6 Thu Transfer to Kayseri Airport for flight to Chicago via Istanbul

LAND & FERRY

\$3,490 Per Person in Double Occupancy
\$1,050 Single Room Supplement

AIR from CHICAGO: \$1,490 Per person including Kayseri-Istanbul flight

INCLUDING

- 2 Nights at GRAND HALIC HOTEL ISTANBUL or similar
- 1 Night at ESPERIA HOTEL in Kavala or similar
- 2 Nights at METEORITIS HOTEL in Kalambaka or similar
- 1 Night at AMALIA HOTEL in Delphi or similar
- 1 Night at PARTHENON HOTEL in Athens or similar
- 1 Overnight ferry from Athens to Patmos + BLUE BAY HOTEL (3 AM-9 AM) Patmos
- 1 Night at KORUMAR HOTEL KUSADASI or similar
- 2 Nights at KORDON CANKAYA HOTEL IZMIR or similar
- 1 Night at DOGA THERMAL & SPA HOTEL in Pamukkale or similar
- 1 Night at ANEMON HOTEL KONYA or similar
- 2 nights at DILEK KAYA HOTEL CAPPADOCIA or similar
- Daily breakfast and 14 dinners
- Transportation by private A/C bus throughout the tour
- English speaking, Bible-oriented, professional tour guides throughout the tour
- All Entry fees to the sites & museums
- Headsets
- Tips to the tour guide and driver
- Service charges & local taxes

EXCLUDING

- International flights between Chicago - Istanbul (based on Turkish Airlines)
- Kayseri - Istanbul domestic flight
- Turkish Visa Fee (to be obtained online before arrival www.evisa.gov.tr)
- Drinks and lunches
- All personal expenses

PAYMENT PROCEDURE

• **\$200 per person Deposit due by January 15, 2024**

• **Full Payment : February 20, 2024**

• **Land Only Cancellation Policy:**

- Cancellations made before 60 days of departure: Full refund
- Cancellations made within 45 days of departure: 90% refund
- Cancellations made within 30 days of departure: 75% refund
- Cancellations made within 15 days of departure: 50% refund
- Cancellations made within 7 days of departure: 25% refund
- Cancellations made within 6 days of departure: No refund

In addition to the above cancellation policy, we charge a 5% processing fee for all refunds, no matter the date of cancellation. This fee is necessary to cover the costs associated with processing refunds, including bank fees and administrative expenses. We understand that sometimes travel plans change, and we appreciate your understanding of this policy.

REGISTRATION

you can fill in the secure form at TUTKU website



OPTION 1

REGISTER NOW



<https://tutku.travel/tour/2024LSTMAY>

OPTION 2



- 1- Open the Camera app on your device.
- 2- Move the QR code into the frame.

OPTION 3

*Please email to info@tutkutours.com and ask for TUTKU' bank account details if you wish to pay with bank wire transfer.



This tour is fast-paced and strenuous, with considerable walking on uneven ground at archaeological sites. If you have any health concerns, please email Barbara Rossing: brassing@lstc.edu

Academic Credit: One course academic credit is available to Masters level students who register with LST and complete course assignments. Credit can also be transferred to other institutions upon arrangement with the registrar and payment of requisite tuition to LSTC. Please contact the LSTC Admissions Office to apply as a special student



Topkapı Palace, Istanbul



Meteora



Pamukkale

TUTKU

— EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL —

Gaziosmanpaşa Bulvarı 3/303 Izmir 35210 TURKEY

Phone: +90-232 441-8635 / 441-8676 / 441-8677

Visit for other tours: www.tutkutours.com

Email for customized group & individual tour requests: info@tutkutours.com

